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# MONTANA

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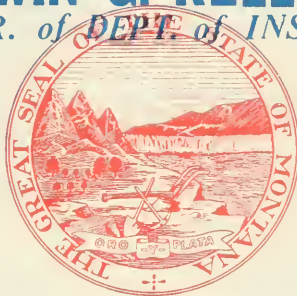
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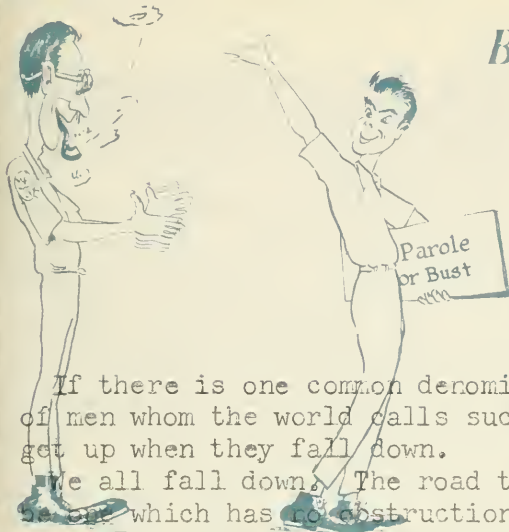
THE M. P. NEWS IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY, BY THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE MONTANA STATE PRISON, DEER LODGE, MONTANA, WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE WARDEN AND UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION. THIS PUBLICATION SERVES TO GIVE THE INMATE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR CREATIVE EXPRESSIOK AID TO PROMOTE BETTER UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN PRISONERS AND PUBLIC. THE OPINIONS EXPRESSED HEREIN ARE THE WRITERS AND NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF THE ADMINISTRATION. EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE NOTED, PERMISSION FOR REPUBLICATION OF MATERIAL IS GRANTED. A COPY OF THE REPRODUCTION WOULD BE APPRECIATED. ADDRESS ALL MAIL, SUBSCRIPTION OF CHANGE OF ADDRESS TO: THE EDITOR, M. P. NEWS, BOX 7, DEER LODGE, MONTANA 59722.

# STIR-TIS-TICS

High Number	22 380	Low Number	14 550
Population inside	315	Rothe Hall	163
Woman's Quarters	10	Ranches	16
Misc. Trusties	5	Total count	513

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If there is one common denominator in the biographies of men whom the world calls successful, it is this: They get up when they fall down.

We all fall down. The road through life isn't made to be on which has no obstructions. But only a comparative few of us are willing and able, again and again, to pick ourselves up, dust ourselves off and keep on going.

This is not to say that all men are otherwise "equal." They are not!

The "all men created equal" thesis has misled us. It's simply not true.

I feel like one of the greatest disappointments one can ever suffer is when he discovers that the I.Q. of a human being ranges from zero to two hundred; we are that far from being equal.

The Gettysburg Address was delivered before human I.Q. was able to be mathematically measured.

Lincoln was of course, a splendid example of this fallacy of his own statement. He has lifted the line from our Declaration of Independence, but he has removed it from its proper context. The Declaration of Independence goes on to specify "equal rights, to life, liberty, and so forth.

Men are not created equal. We do not have the same coordination, the same respiration, the same pulse rate, the same fingerprints, the same tolerance for disease or the same I.Q.

Yet we have sought to run many of our institutions and to order our society as if this sacred cliché were true.

The truth is that some person are built for leadership and some are not. The sooner we get back to encouraging the uncommon men and women, the better it will be for all of us, including those of us who may be "less equal" than others.

In our own family structure, some members demonstrate different apptitudes. Environment and heredity have been similar, yet some individuals, within the same family, are better able to solve problems.

It is indeed a cruel paradox, when we consider that we tend to deny common men while the Russians tend to encourage and reward the uncommon ones. Thus we might well pass each other going in the opposite directions.

There are several factors which contribute to individual accomplishment: Health, perserverance towards a single goal or an extraordinarily compatible marriage partnership. (one where both parties strive to help each other in accomplishing and realizing one goal)

But I am convinced there is no power on earth which will keep a first-rate man down or completely stalemate him in his forward movement toward a worthwhile endeavor in life.

And also that the one controllable factor in success is that those who deserve this success will get up if and when they stumble and fall.

It must be remembered that prisoners are human beings. You can't simply isolate them from society and then expect them to pick up their lives where they left off. A human being can't be turned on and off like an electric light or a water tap.

The idea of vindictive punishment is just about the worst thing that a society could dream up. It might serve a purpose to merely segeragate an offender.....It might if you didn't have to remember that he is going to be released someday. And it should be remembered that the bulk of prison inmates really want to go straight on their release. And, strangely enough, very few of them know what actually brought about the mental attitude which caused them to become law violators in the first place.

The average inmate doesn't want to become a "hardened criminal" any more than the social drinker wants to become an alcoholic.

Trying to help prison inmates rehabilitate themselves and giving them the tools with which to work isn't a matter of coddling criminals; it's merely protecting society.

I hear it said constantly that the "protection of society" is the primary concern of law makers; enforcers and society in general. If not directly then at least indirectly.

If this last statement is true, and I naturally presume that it is. Then I suggest that as a nation; as one of the most advanced societys on the face of the earth; we start to practice what we preach.

I am never more amazed than when I hear someone make the statement, "Well they caught up with, so and so, now mabe they'll put him away where he belongs." Could any thing be more ridiculous? How can we simply be satisfied with the knowledge that a man is merely locked up?

Surely the rising crime rate, and the amount of men returning to prisons again and again after a release, lend truth to the fact that our penal systems are not accomplishing the job they should.

No more should we be complacent with the mere incarceration of an individual. We must project into the future and ask ourselves what will happen when the individual is released? Will he go back to the old way of life? Or will he have been given the help necessary to change those attitudes which led up to committing his crime? Most important, will he upon release from a penal institution, even realize that he needs to change these attitudes? And will he after release be able to step out into a society that will accept him for what he does in the future, not what he has done in the past.

The time for talk is past! It's going to take action, and a lot of it! By this I mean that now is the time to act. While crime is on the rise and its the nations major problem. These are times when things get accomplished. If men only have the forebearance and fortitude to see them through to the end.

Thus ends my last editorial! Possibly one of my most memorable experiences has been the job I have held the past few months. I can't say that its always been fun, I can't even say that its been easy. But I can say that it has been interesting. It has taxed my ability to communicate. A trait I was sure I excelled at, in the past. But through editing these past magazines I find I sometimes fail to express things clearly enough to be completely understood. Nevertheless, I feel that I have gained an insight into many problems that have been directly related to my reasons for being incarcerated. By attempting to understand others and their reasons for reacting the way they do to certain situations, I know that I am now able to view and react objectively to my

own life. I leave with the knowledge, and even a certain satisfaction that even though what I have written may not have any over whelming effect on those that have read those words, at least I have said what I felt needed to be said. Its an experience that I shall be long forgetting.

An Editor, no matter where he works is not the only individual that should receive credit for the work done.

There are artists, cartoonists, copy writers, special-correspondants and the men who have the biggest job of all. The men who print the paper. Who spend days on end over a multi-lith machine. All of the above are to be especially commended on the effort they have exerted in making this the fine publication it is today.

The man who is replacing me needs no introduction----? For he has made himself heard in the past, through this magazine. John Michel has been the Managing - Editor in the last two editions of the MP News. He has done a tremendous job. I know that the MP News will continue on its way to the top of the Penal Press, 'Best Mag' list under his capable leadership. She's all yours John!

Thanks for the build-up, and all the space "Buddy!" either of which I'm afraid, I never seem to have enough of! This May issue, (which I might add is on time) is as you can see, based on the Memorial Day theme. My motive is ...quite plain. To show, through articles, through facts and through Concern, that although we may be incarcerated we are still capable of caring. Life, has been defined as motion; mans life is purposeful motion; what is the state of being, to whom purpose and motion are denied? A being held incarcerated, but left to breathe and to see all the magnificence of the possibilities he could have reached, yet left to scream "why?" and to be caste in a dreary cell as a sole explanation! In prison we have no purposeful motion, sans life. All we have is the hope for the future, but we must wait, we must hope that we still have some purpose, some future, to look forward to. What is going on in the world today is shocking to society; and terrifying to us, the unsociety of the fettered. We are ostricized today, but we hope for a rewarding and purposeful tomorrow.

AR 601-210, Section 10, states a man will not be Disqualified because of a criminal record.

## *Convicts Are Americans!"*

Why not allow convicts to volunteer for Vietnam?

Last month, an article appeared in the Montana Standard, concerning a petition drawn, signed, and executed by the men in the Montana State Prison.

The article received space in that paper, but it wasn't exactly headline news.

In glancing through some of the other penal press publications from institutions across the country, I hit paydirt in the April issue of "Time & Tide" from Lorton, Virginia. The letters herein, are a part of those received by Mr. Ian Briscoe, and Walter Parman, inmates of the Lorton penitentiary, who it seems were quite a few steps ahead of me, and it is to these men I owe thanks for much research, and effort. What I would like to do is to join forces with my fellow 'fettered patriots' in the east, and in doing so I hope to be of some help, as I feel this concerns us all!

When an individual is incarcerated he is sometimes able to lock his feelings for loved ones and ideals he once held dear out. This has not been the case with me, as I am sure it isn't with many who share the "fettered claustrophobia" of prison life.

If we were able to remain shut in, without any news from the outside world, if we could forget that an outside world exists - until our time is up, things would be so much easier for all of us. We would be able to do easy time. But we can not ignore the Newspapers, the radio, or T.V. and invariably, we suffer more, because we want so very much to be a part of what is going on, both good and bad, for you can enjoy the good, and fight the bad, if you're free.

What irks me most is the dissention our colleges today over a war that must be fought, a war that must be won, and a war that today's society wants no part of!

People want to forget the bad, and only remember the good, yet when attacked they wonder why?

Communism has promised to bury us, yet the 'doves' of our society cling to a precarious hope that we can make peace. Yet they ignore the rumble of war that is erupting all around us!

What bothers me so much is when I think of what this could all lead to if we Americans don't wake up!

I wonder what the anti-Vietnam dissenters would tell their children in future years if they were to be asked: "What did you do, before the Commies came, daddy?"

What could he say? I carried a sign saying "Better Red than Dead" or "Make Peace not War?" What could we as ex-convicts say? "We were in prison, so it wasn't our fault?" I'm a convict, yet I believe very strongly in our American heritage. And everything that being an American stands for!

Fear is something one experiences from the day he enters a prison, until the day he gets to leave.

The fear varies to be sure, but one fear I would like to mention, that is never talked about; is the fear that there will not be a United States of America when one gets to go home! People on the outside don't like to talk about 'the bomb' anymore than we do, but at least they aren't shut away from their loved ones, in some isolated part of the country, where they have time in which to do nothing else but think.

This is why convicts are so willing to fight and if necessary, to die for their country; we can't stand idly by and not at least be able to help, this is all we ask!

On the next page is a copy of the letter I sent out to the leading newspapers in Montana, my intentions were to sound the public out on this proposal of convicts having the right to fight for their country. I sincerely hope my efforts instill favorable opinion of this proposal in the public's mind. Following my letter are some of the comments Mr. Briscoe, and Mr. Parmar recieved from their efforts in the Washington area.

Editor's Note: This growing concern I mentioned above, I was able to find an evidence in many of the Penal Mags throughout the country. I only wish I had the room to include them all.

Mr. Tim Babcock  
% Governors Office  
Capitol Building  
Helena, Montana 59601

May 8, 1968

Sir: I feel convicted men are more acutely aware of moral right and wrong, and are just as capable of having a high feeling of patriotism for God and Country!

I base this belief on my own personal feelings, and that of the growing concern which is in evidence by other Penal Press publications throughout the nation.

What is happening now in Vietnam, has happened before in Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Korea, Cuba and yet the 'doves' of our society wish to placate our enemies by condoning - or worse yet, ignoring the communistic aggression that is ever constant and ever dangerous.

I believe Communism has to be suppressed wherever its fungus starts to spread! Whether it be in Two Dot, Montana, Helena, New York City, or distant Vietnam.

I would like to call the attention of the community to the fact that "iniquity" exists in the little known facet of our draft laws.

The United States Government has ordered a total draft call of 48,000 for the month of April, and there is discussion in Washington of calling up the reserves.

In short, what they are doing is ordering thousands of young men to curtail their educations, and even to lay down their lives in support of U.S. policy in Vietnam.

Yet the Government is overlooking a vast pool of latent manpower. It has been estimated that there are over a half a million males of service age in various prisons, reformatories, and jails across the nation.

Certainly not all of these would qualify as desirable soldiers, but the potential is there is Congress would act to provide for their induction into special units.

The idea is not new, Gen. George Patton had a whole battalion of convicts at the Battle of the Bulge. He rated them as "Damn good soldiers."

Giving a man a chance to serve his country after he has dishonored himself and community is, to be sure, a controversial idea, but it has its merits.

Cont.

An individual could win back his self-respect and also the respect of the country.

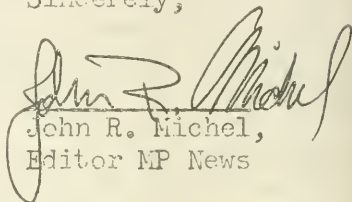
The available manpower is staggering. At Montana State Prison alone, we have well over 200 young men who would readily volunteer to serve in Vietnam!

These same men are now a constant burden to YOU the Taxpayer, and they are stagnating when they could be serving their country honorably.

We want to help! We want to be - Americans!

I would like to hear from any who would care to comment on this proposal.

Sincerely,



John R. Michel,  
Editor MP News

---

After reading your letter in the Post, I am of the opinion that you have a good idea, best of luck with it!

Clarence C. Case  
Secretary - Citizens  
for Conservation  
Lansing, Michigan

---

I am writing to you to show my support of your proposal which I saw in the Post. I myself am 16 years old and expect one day to go to Vietnam - (Ed. Note:) heaven forbid! - I would personally rather fight with convicts who were willing, rather than with college students who were not. It has been said that Vietnam has helped the Negro receive acceptance. This also might one day apply to the convict!

Fritz Brystrom (16yrs)  
Washington, D.C.

---

INFORMATION DEPARTMENT  
EMBASSY OF THE  
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS  
1706 Eighteenth Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009

Mr. Walter L. Parman  
Managing Editor  
Time & Tide  
P.O. Box 25  
Lorton, Virginia

Dear Mr. Parman:

During World War II when the Nazis invaded our country, many prisoners were permitted to join the Soviet Armed Forces. The majority of them distinguished themselves on the battlefields.

Thousands of former prisoners were awarded military orders and became full fledged respected citizens of our country.

But one war differs from another. I know of cases when people prefer to go to jail rather than participate in a war which they consider to say the least - unjust.

I do not think fighting in a country against the proud and determined population of that country could be a good form of rehabilitation for anyone.

Yours very truly,

V. Bogachev  
First Secretary

I cannot speak to the question posed in your letter, i.e. whether qualified prisoners should be permitted to serve in the Armed Forces; from any posture of special knowledge or understanding. I have none of these. I do not believe that felons should be permitted to pay their debt to society" by serving in the Armed Forces. There should be no thought of "Payment to society" behind the fact of imprisonment. While necessarily punitive, time in prison should be utilized to return useful citizens to normal life in society, to the extent that this be possible. Those who cannot so return, should not be returned. The chief burden upon those who run our penal systems is to determine which individual is which in this regard. It does seem to me that if this discrimination can be made, that if there can be identified with a very close degree of statistical success, those prisoners who if given fair chance and opportunity, would return to open society and live essentially normal, decent, and constructive lives, and if such individuals are still condemned to a considerable period of servitude beyond the date on which this identification can be made, then such prisoners should indeed be offered the opportunity to serve in the Armed Forces at times of national military crisis.

Ed. Note: Professor Handler is also Vice Chairman of the National Science Foundation, and the National Science Board.

Prof. Phillip Handler  
Chairman  
Dept. of Biochemistry  
Duke University  
North Carolina

I read your letter which appeared in the March 9th. edition of the Washington Post, and found it very interesting and informative. Good luck to you in your endeavors. I am sure that there will be a number of people, including myself, who will get behind your efforts.

John M. McKee PH.D.  
Executive Director  
Rehabilitation Research Foundation  
Elmore, Alabama

I read your article in the editorial section of the Washington Post newspaper on March 9, 1968, with interest and I must say that I have been of the same opinion regarding the use of prisoners for Military Service for quite some time. Prisoners could be used for military service instead of drafting young men and especially students for such services and prisoners who served their country honorably should receive a clean record upon being discharged as this would enable them to be more readily acceptable for employment. Why not bring this idea before the Television medium? Further, I imagine there are thousands of men in prison who would gladly accept an opportunity to clear their records as well as serve their country and be of use to their society in doing so.

I would like to meet someone from your office and discuss the matter referred to above, perhaps I can be of some help.

Lilian Wilson  
Washington, D.C.

I have just read your letter of a damn good idea in the Sat. Evening Post. Why don't we do this? This country is so screwed up in red tape, technicalities, War, income tax, that day to day living is becoming so complex that our young people are saying to hell with it!

I hope your idea's go into being quick!

C.M. Wesner  
Chevy Chase, Maryland

I have read your proposal and certainly feel that if these men are carefully screened, many of them could serve successfully in the Armed Forces. They would be accustomed to the regimentation and routine of service and the transition would not be as severe a challenge to them as a direct return to civilian life, where they left to their own resources. Also, the greater chances of apprehension for violations would be far more effective in preventing recidivism than our lenient courts are today.

Ann Coyne Todd, M.D.  
Member Psychiatrist  
U.S. Comm. on Mental  
Health.

---

I am a lawyer in the Judge Advocate General's Corps of the Army and as such I am doubly interested in your proposal, outlined in your letter to the editor of the Washington Post. I would appreciate any information you would care to furnish concerning your proposal.

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Stephen M Courtland  
Captain, JAGC  
Fort Bragg, N.C.

---



---

I read the letter in the Post and thought the argument sensible. Now that I have re-read it I still think so!

I suppose there have to be prisons at least for those who reject society and until we discover ways of rehabilitating those who thought they have violated want some how to live as members of society.

This plan seems to offer a good way of helping a man back to self respect, and to the respect of others, something he needs, as was pointed out in the last issue of Time & Tide when you praised the new regulation that all prisoners be addressed as "Mr." The one hitch with it, is the problem of trust, I don't think that you can persuade people to trust as deeply as they would have to if they were to approve of this plan. They would have to believe that even if a few fail the trust --- and some probably would, the plan would be worthwhile because of those who lived up to it! I think that people will refuse to take the risk, and if they do, Congress will not bring such a plan up for debate.

Still, I would like to see it tried, and I would support any efforts to get it into effect!

Prof. Roger L. Slakey  
Chairman - Dept. of Eng  
Georgetown University  
Washington, D.C.

---

I read with interest your letter to the editor in the Washington Post. Would it be possible for you to document for the World War II experience that justifies your proposal?

Brian P. Gettings, Exec.  
Director, Republican Comm.  
of Plan & Research  
Task Force on Crime  
U.S. House of Representi-  
tives - Washington, D.C.

CONVICT GI PROVED WORTH IN WW II; PRISON RETURNS FELL TO A RECORD LOW!

Illinois convicts released into the Army during World War II violated their paroles four times less than prisoners paroled into civilian life today!

This fact was revealed in a comparison by the Menard Time of a 1960 sociological report on Illinois parolees who fought in WW II and today's national parole violation average.

According to a seven-page sociological treatise researched, compiled and written by the past president of the Illinois Academy of Criminology, only 100 of 2,942-felons paroled to combat in WW II violated their paroles.

Author of the treatise is Hans W. Mattick, research-Director of the Chicago Youth Development Project.

A research sociologist and former guest author for the Time, Mattick offered the article for publication.

#### 19 of 20 Succeeded

The Army parolees violated parole 5.2 per cent, the article said, compared with Illinois's civilian violation of 22.6. Today's national average is 25 per cent.

Other facts brought out by Mattick: -- That a similar program during WW I was officially termed a "distinct-success." -- A follow-up study eight years after the end of WW I showed that the Army parolees compiled a recidivism (return to prison) rate of one-sixth of those who finished prison sentences and did not fight. That Homicide and sex cases -- both of which have the lowest violation rates, were not accepted by the screening boards.

#### RECORDS UNKNOWN

That 84 per cent of the Army parolees served their country without their military superiors knowing of their past records. That 75 per cent of the parolees were promoted, compared with 76 per cent of a matched control group. That 90 per cent of the parolees and that 97 per cent of the control group won honorable discharges!

These are the facts...What I am trying to do through these articles, is to substantiate what has been done in the past, and to ask the question: "Why can't this be done now?" 9 out of 10 won Honorable discharges at the end of World War II. To use in here, those are pretty good odds; when one wants to consider a constructive future!

## TO SMOKE OR NOT TO SMOKE....THAT IS STILL THE QUESTION!

Are cigarettes really "hazardous" to your health, like the package says?

By Al Mattson

When the surgeon general of the United States issued his report in January 1964, indicting cigarettes as the chief cause of lung cancer, brought about a great deal of controversy, between medical authorities and statisticians, disagreed vigorously with the report and charged its findings were distorted.

Never-the-less, after Surgeon General Luther Terry's report asserted that "cigarettes smoking is a health hazard of sufficient importance in the United States to warrant appropriate remedial action." the Senate and House Committees on commerce held hearings for 16 days in 1965 to consider proposed legislation.

Congress wouldn't go along with the Surgeon Generals strong indictment that smoking was cancerous, but all it would agree to do was to require cigarette packages to be labeled with an ambiguous warning that "smoking may be hazardous." This struck many as a very mild phrase. It seems more reasonable to assume that the Congressmen were simply unimpressed by the anti-cigarette testimony. This could be due to the fact that the overwhelming weight of expert testimony during the hearings underscored four salient points:

1. The cause of cancer is unknown. It is an established principle that a factor thought to be responsible for a disease must be found in all cases of it, and cancer strikes a dozen sites in the body not remotely associated with smoking (the stomach, prostate, urinary tract, etc.) It is suspected there may be 150 different causes of cancer!

2. Ten percent of all lung-cancer victims never have smoked, proof that tobacco is not the sole cause of the disease. Conversely, 95 percent of heavy cigarette smokers do not contract it!

3. Long exposure to concentrated cigarette smoke never has produced lung cancer in an experimental animal and researchers have been trying for 35 years!

Doctor Terry conceded that "the chronic toxicity of ni-

cotine is very low and probably does not represent an important health hazard." The tars, or chemical compounds, in burning tobacco have caused skin cancers only on strains of mice so susceptible to the disease that the same effect has been obtained with surgar, beef, and vegetable oil!

4. Statistics alone link cigarettes with lung cancer, a correlation that is not accepted as scientific proof of cause and effect. This was admitted in the opening of the report by the Surgeon General's Committee: "The Committee was aware that the mere establishment of a statistical association between the use of tobacco and a disease is not enough. The casual significance of the use of tobacco in relation to the disease is the crucial question." Yet they disregard their own ground rules and condemned cigarettes on the basis of seven statistical studies made by groups whose objectivity and sampling-techniques were open to doubt!

Since the argument against cigarettes rests largely on statistics, it is illuminating to examine some of the inconsistencies and contradictions in the figures.

For example:

\* Lung cancer is rare in women. The male vs female ratio is 6:1; in 1930 it was 1.5:1. There has been a tremendous increase in women smokers during the last generation, but their death rate from lung cancer---has remained almost steady. This clearly suggests a sexual factor that makes men more susceptible to the disease.

\* Cancer of the trachea---windpipe---is very rare. Yet this is the area that gets the greatest exposure to tobacco smoke.

\* When lung cancer appears, in the overwhelming majority of cases it is in the lower part of the lung which is never reached by smoke! A study made recently by the Los Angeles County Hospital, dating back to 1927, showed that cancer of the lung tubes, which get the heaviest dosage of smoke has been stabilized in recent years!

\* If smoking causes lung cancer, heavy consumers of cigarettes should contract it earlier than non-smokers.

They don't! The peak of the onset of the disease is between 57 and 62---for chain smokers and people who never have used tobacco. Further, there is no proof that the chances of getting cancer are reduced by giving up smoking.

\* Inhaling should induce lung cancer if cigarettes are hazardous. Not a scrap of evidence has been found to corroborate the theory. A British survey actually showed there were fewer cancer victims among steady inhalers than non-smokers.....

\* British men smoke only half as many cigarettes per capita as Americans, but they have double the incidence of lung cancer--a differential of four to one. Why?.... More air pollution in England? A genetic factor?.....

\* The most potent cancer-inducing agent in tobacco smoke is believed to be benzopyrene. Although the amount of it is infinitesimal, there is four times as much in cigar smoke and 10 times as much in pipe smoke than in cigarettes! Yet cigars and pipes are said to be safer than cigarettes. According to the statistics. Pipe smokers have lower mortality rates than men who gave up the habit. What does this prove--the danger of quitting?...

\* Since 1914, cigarette consumption in the United States has increased 200-fold, but the incidence of lung cancer has not increased nearly that much in spite of better diagnostic methods and a greater awareness of the disease  
The current mortality rate of 26.6 per 100,000 population would be vastly greater if cigarettes were guilty as charged!.....

Editor's Note: This article was taken and deleted from the January issue of True Magazine, about one of today's most controversial periodicals.

The MP News stands open for any rebuttal on this subject

\*\*\*\*\*

Take your cell number and double it. Add 5. Multiply by half a hundred. Then add your age. Add the number of days in a year. Subtract 615. The last two figures will be your age; the others your cell number. It works!

\*\*\*\*\*

NOTICE: Any man who thinks he is more intelligent than his wife is married to a smart woman!

\*\*\*\*\*



A succesful Pop Artist, Jasper Jones, tells of his first exhibit in his native South Carolina.

One woamn said in audible tones, "My, that's a beautiful painting." The woman standing next to her turned and said, "Oh, are you a relative too?"

\*\*\*\*\*

Did you hear the one about the two sailors who were castaway on a desert island during the war? For thirteen years they lived a hermit's existence---never seeing a ship, an animal, or another human being. And then, after thirteen years, they looked out across the water-----and there floating on its side was a bottle. One of those new giant size Coca-Cola bottles! They splashed out into the surf, scooped it up-----and a look of unspeakable horror spread over their faces. One turned to the other and gasped: "Sam! Sam! My God, we've shrunk!"

\*\*\*\*\*

A man called his creditors together to tell them that he was about to go into bankruptcy. "I owe you over \$100, 000," he said. "And my assets aren't enough to pay five cents on the dollar. So it would be impossible for you to get anything - unless you want to cut me up and divide me among you."

One creditor spoke up immediately. "I move we do it, 'I'd like to have his gall!"

\*\*\*\*\*

Famous words from history: Paul Revere: "The British are coming!" Patrick Henry: "Give me Liberty, or give me death!" Lady Godiva: "Whoops, this seat is cold!"

\*\*\*\*\*

Sympathetic fan: "What's the score?"

Little leaguer: "Sixteen to nothing."

Sympathetic fan: "Gee, that's too bad."

Little leaguer: "Oh, that's all right. We ain't been to bat yet!"



I don't think  
my girlfriend, Mabel  
likes me any more..



It's a terrible thing to  
discover that your girlfriend  
doesn't like you anymore...



She doesn't write me the  
way she used to...she doesn't  
even write me at all.....



It's like having your  
subscription to the M P  
News run out.....



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# Would You Believe ?

*By Mike Michel*

The beautiful and the ugly, joy and suffering, harmony and discord, are side by side in life.

The glorious lily comes out of the mud and slime. The most beautiful music is played on instruments that are capable of making raucous sounds. The most sublime moments in life lie very close to the most painful situations.

We get the good thing of life with the hard things. The greatest good comes out of the greatest suffering.

Think of the toll of death, in bloodshed, in agony that has been wrung from human beings all through the ages as the price of liberty. We must take the bitter with the sweet. It is the law of life!

\*\*\*\*\*

I hate the guys who criticize and minimize the other guys whose enterprise has made them rise above the guys who criticize and minimize the other guys!

\*\*\*\*\*

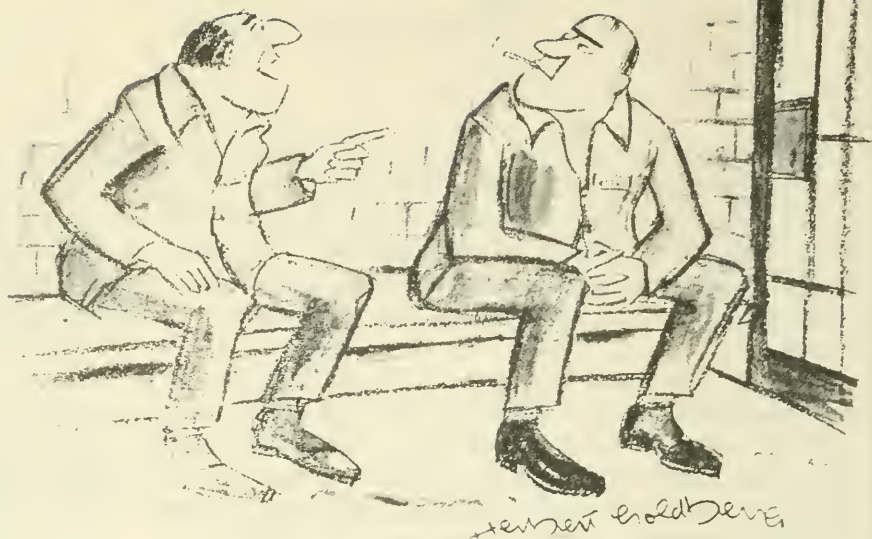
Be careful about calling yourself an "expert." Remember - an "x" is a has-been, and a "spurt" is just a drip under a whole lot of pressure!

Progress - wrote George William Curtis, begins with the minority. It is completed by persuading the majority by showing the reason and the advantage of the step forward, and that is accomplished by appealing to the intelligence of the majority."

\*\*\*\*\*

Children have to learn that there is more to life than play but it takes alot of work to convince them!

\*\*\*\*\*



"Henry, why are you here?" Emerson asked through the bars of Concord jail. "Waldo, why are you not here?" asked Thoreau."



# Your Eyes

By Norman Ferguson

NOT ALL THE STARS OF SILVERY BRIGHT.....  
ARE GLEAMING IN THE SKIES...  
INDEED THE MOST BEAUTIFUL...  
ARE SHINING IN YOUR EYES.

THEY ARE THE STARS THAT LIGHT MY PATH...  
NOT ONLY THROUGH THE NIGHT....  
BUT ALSO WHEN THE DAWN IS HERE  
WITH ITS GOLDEN LIGHT.

TWO STARS THAT GUIDE ME.....  
ON MY WAY, WHERE EVER I MAY BE  
THE ONE OF LOVE, THE OTHER....  
OF BOUNDLESS FAITH IN ME.

AND THAT IS WHY I NEVER FAIL..  
IN ANYTHING I DO....  
BECAUSE THE STARS FOR WHICH I REACH  
ARE REALLY PART OF YOU.

THE STARS SO BRIGHT, HIDE IN SHAME.....  
FROM THE SHIMMERING IN YOUR EYES...  
FOR INSIDE THE WOMAN YOU BECAME....  
COMES BEAUTY TO QUELL THE SKIES.

YOUR HAND IN MINE, I RULE THE WORLD....  
BUT WITHOUT, SUCH A PEASANT'S FATE...  
TO SEE THE LOVE IN YOUR HEART UNFURL...  
I DREAM IT'S NOT TO LATE.

# THE FETTERED SONG OF SPRING

The song of spring is upon us,  
The smell of lilacs fill the air;  
Yet I just sit here remembering -  
Springs gone by, days without care.

What is it that stirs these memories  
Why do I torture myself so?  
For a prison cell is my nemesis  
There's no place I can go!

These prison walls deride my yearnings,  
For peace, the contentment of spring;  
For love, and female understanding;  
All walled out....now I die within.

In here spring is but another season;  
To be endured, to try and hide away;  
My fervent striving for something better,  
For my dreams of Yesterday!



By John - Michael

# From the Warden's Desk

For several years the prison administration has discussed the possibility of establishing a pre-release-center for those inmates who are returning to free society or their home communities after several years of incarceration.

It is a known fact that men leaving the confines of a prison and retrain to every-day, normal existence, where many personal decisions must be made, have a problem.

They definitely need a period of de-institutionalization.

The prison administration plan includes both pre-parole and pre-discharge inmates. Approximately four weeks would be spent on some sort of work detail and one-half day on a planned program. The program would consist of movie films, outside speakers, such as ministers, employment agents, attorneys, highway patrolmen, haberdashers, etc. Inmates at the pre-release center will be permitted to go to town in civilian clothing, shop for themselves, attend shows, receive visits from families and friends, etc.

The center will be staffed by professional counselors, and located in the vicinity of Helena.

This our plan and has the approval of our Governor and the Department of Institutions.

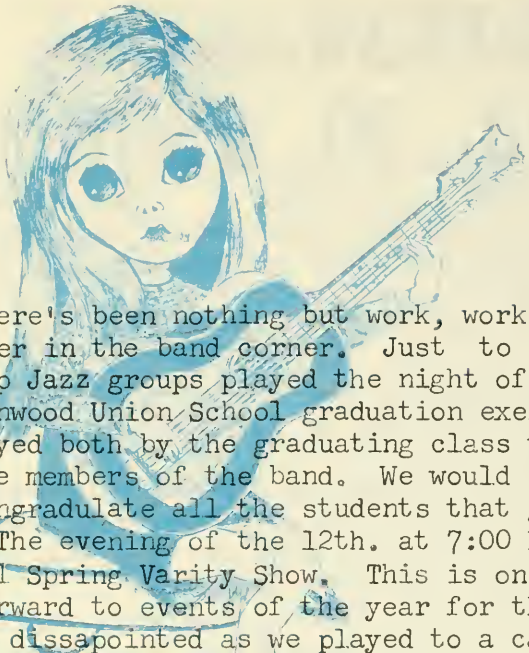
The last and toughest hurdle will be to sell the project to the Forty-first Legislative Assembly in Jan. 1969

Editor Note: There will be a special report on other Pre-Release Centers in the country, and how they are working; in next months issue.

This, I am sure, is of interest to everyone, as it concerns both the tax-paying citizens, and we the incarcerated!

*F A Ellsworth, Jr.*

# Band Hi Lite



There's been nothing but work, work, work, this month over in the band corner. Just to start things off the Pop Jazz groups played the night of the 11th. for Cottonwood Union School graduation exercises. This was enjoyed both by the graduating class their families, plus the members of the band. We would like to take time to congratulate all the students that graduated!

The evening of the 12th. at 7:00 P.M. we gave our annual Spring Variety Show. This is one of the most looked forward to events of the year for the band, and none were dissappointed as we played to a capacity crowd.

Playing for the show were the Jazz Trio, Pop Band, Western Band, and a few classical numbers. To liven-things up "down yonder" comedian Dee Clark gave the audience many a laugh with some of his "yarn" in the middle of the show during one of the breaks Mr. Ellsworth came on stage and gave Mr. Sewell, Band Director a much deserving compliment for his work with the Band, and what he had done for it.

The band has just acquired a new Fender Bass Jazz guitar. This is a real fine instrument that anyone would be proud to play, also we finally got our own phonograph that plays both monoral and stereo records.

Starting May 20th. There will be a music class started for anyone wishing to gain a better knowledge on this subject. The teacher will be none other than John "Bassman" Parks. This class will consist of the basic reading chord structure, and theory of music. All those interested contact Mr. Sewell, Band Director. Due to lack of books, space, etc. there will only be a limited amount of students allowed in the class; however, a new class will be starting every six weeks. That's about it for this month, so until next time - keep in tune!

# THE HEN-HOUSE



~~Greetings from~~ the Hen House:

May 9, 1968

We now have nine girls. Marilyn finally left us. It's about time! We were sorry to see her go but happy for her. We wish her all the luck in the world. So I'm replacing her (or should I say faking it) on the mail books. Evelyn thought Mother's day was June 12th instead of May 12th. She had a rude awakening this week.

We have two new arrivals. Welcome Pam and Clarice. Hope you enjoy the hospitality during your stay!

Madelein, our housekeeper has been keeping the place spotless and shining besides doing the yard work. She's looking forward to planting our huge garden, /two onions four tomato plants and three potatoe plants!

Bubbles never gets out of the basement anymore. She's doing the Research Center's lab coats on top of the laundry and the Warden's ironing.

Mary's beauty shop is doing a booming business. Thank goodness for rehabilitation (?)

Delores is trying out new recipes on us. If you don't hear anything from us next month you'll know the reason why! Ramona, our quiet one, must be meditating. What-on we'll never know.

There will be no sports news this month due to Spring Fever. That's all for now -

Pat Gremmer

# SPORTS HI-LIGHTS

Cloyce Little Light



It's a Fact! MSP has finally been included in a new league. This is the first time, I believe, MSP has ever been included in an outside league.

In this new league there are something like nine teams. These teams will play each other three times. For example: Northern Timber will play MSP three times, Rothe Hall three times and so on until each team has played all teams three times. A possible total of 27 games for MSP and Rothe Hall.

Here's how! The inside will play two games a week and sometimes three games. Same with Rothe Hall. At the end of these games there will be a tournament with trophies galore. There's no guarantee as to how many trophies, but Mr. Ronnemose, the Athletic Director says approximately four, Team Trophy, Best Game, Etc.

By the way, these games are slow-pitch games and the players will be picked as the season rolls along. Better sign up for slow-pitch; gotta get your name on that trophy. I got word from the editor that I am limited to one page, so in the next issue, I will try and get all the ball games, and more information on this new league.

Cloyce Little Light

Editor's Note: Next month there will be a special sports edition covering the Memorial Day events and special soft ball reports. Send a subscription to Mom. You might be in it!

# BELOW OLYMPUS By Interlandi



"How can I write 'the great American novel'?  
I don't know my own country any more  
these days!"



# CONVICTS NEED CIVIL RIGHTS

What is the best solution in aiding men and women coming out of our prisons today? To release an individual after X amount of years incarceration, and say: - "Alright, try and go stright now - get a job and settle down." Is not near enough! In reality what is being done is downright vexing to an individual being told he must comply, or face the consequences. No one, I am sure wants to return to prison. Yet many do; what we must ask ourselves is WHY? Coming out of confinement into a competitive society can be - even for the most determined, if they return - than it is said: "Well, he wasn't determined enough. Let's face it; some individuals in prisons do have certain shortcomings, like lack of incentive. Consequently they give up at the first rebuke. And no matter what community they would go to, they would surely receive more than one. It's human nature. This would have to be the most important test a person must face in coming out of an institution. To be able to face up to his limitations - to be able to fall, and to get up and try again!

What is so disconcerting, is that individuals are being released from our penitentiaries without any job-training, and in some cases, in a worse mental state due to just plain insecurity. The point I am building up to is that for a person to be happy, he or she must feel secure in what they are doing! Security is based on knowing you won't be displaced; and that what your doing you can do well! Often-times, security is only a precarious state for released convicts, and frustration is very often the major reason an individual is tempted to retrogress back to his or her shortcomings of the past.

Frustration in some cases comes about when the individual feels he can do better, but is fettered because of the stigma that brands you CONVICT for life!

I reiterate: 'A happy person is a working person! If anyone has never learned to enjoy his work, he has never leaned how to enjoy life. (And there too many happy people in prison) A little child yearns to do something; work is instinctive. One who has enjoyed his work, when reaching old age, feels lost if he becomes incapacitated and can no longer work. One is hap-

piest when he finds the work for which he is best suited a work in which his abilities can be best employed. One value of education is to learn to know one's self, one's capacities, one's interests, so that the proper life-work can be selected. Why should this be denied an individual simply because he once made a mistake?

Motivation is most important to an individual released but not released, he is still in a 'limbo-state' of not yet free. Motivation is most important in doing a job well. The matter of salary should be secondary to that of selecting a work in which one can give one's best for the larger welfare of himself and the community!

This is not to say, you would be happier being paid less; only that in the long run, through the proper motivation and taxing of your abilities, this would prove the most sane course; in that you will eventually earn more, and in working in a job you are happy with, you will be an asset to all: Family - Community - Self!

This is what we all should be striving for; this is what should be foremost in the "rehabilitation" of men and women who need it most - the LOSERS of our society today. Convicted men and women who need good job training, encouragement. Until this is done, until society is ready to aid through understanding - (We don't want your tax dollars) what we want is in our constitution, a chance to be equal. It never fails to amaze me, how society will spend thousands of thousands of dollars to incarcerate an individual, and only pennies when it comes right down to help, through education and therapy.

Happiness is working! Ex-convicts will have to search for happiness, many won't be able to find it!

Is this - The End?

A farmer wanted five chain pieces, each with three links put together in one long chain, the welder charges 5¢ each time he cuts a link, and 5¢ each time he welds one. He said he could do it for 30¢. How did he do it?

(ANSWER)

He cut each of the three links in any one set. With the three loose links he welded each of the other four sets together.

# FOSTER PARENTS



Dear Foster Parents,

As soon as you receive my letter, I hope you'll never learn to forget me. And now my constant prayer will be that God will keep you safe for me together in everyday undertaking. A few days from now, graduation is now approaching and my heart full of gladness and it seems that goal of success be with me. On March 30 have a Junior & Senior Prom due in Paug at 7 o'clock in the evening and on April 5 is our Senior Examinations; Foster Parents, WHY ARE YOU NOT WRITE ME ANMORE, are you very busy in your work? Well, if I do hope. I have some more story that I want to tell to you in my next letter. Last March I receive: 1 bottle of medicine, 2 gautiar of rice. I thanked you, God abide you always,

Just your Foster Child  
Teresita M. Estacio

Editors note:

Well, there you have it guys; our Foster Child is graduating, and hasn't gotten any mail! Now we know how that feels, so lets do something about it!

The card we all signed for Teresita has gone out, and I'm sure she will be quite pleased. Any man interested in writing Teresita, can do so. Cards are available for individual persons wanting to send her congradulations, for either her graduation, or her 16th birthday, may do so. For any additional information, get in touch with - Chaplain Skidsrud, or myself. Incidentally, I want to extend my congradulations to the men who contributed towards the fund to bring our little girl to the United States. Over \$200.00 was collected from the inside alone!!



# La Barge Jaycees



## Enlightenment Through Leadership

Guess what fella's? Summer is here (I think) and as of the 27th of March it was voted that the LaBarge Jaycee's will now hold one meeting per month until the end of the summer months, and night yard.

At our last meeting, Captain Gaasch, Montana Hiway Patrolman, gave us a talk on traffic safety and some traffic statistics of which, were shocking; not only for myself, but for everyone present at the meeting!

Our next scheduled meeting, (the second Monday of this month) we will be holding elections for office, and I might add, that there are some great men running, who I believe can do our club great justice. But remember guys these men need support so lets all dig in and help!

To make a great club we need good team-work, and the only way to do this is to work together as I know we can

Som come on guys, Lets show shome!

As you all know we lost one of our outstanding members in Troy, who decided as much as he would like to stay with us here, the outside world held more possibilities for him. We all know that he was one of our most effective speakers, and we all want to wish him the best of luck, and that he applies himself in college, as staunchly as he has in our club here!

We want to thank the officers going out of office for the great work they have done in their perspective jobs, and congradulations to the incoming officers - whom-so-ever they may be! My best to everyone, I remain -

Incarcerated  
(darn)

Jim McDonald, Ed.



REPRINT FROM THE SPECTATOR: Jackson, Michigan

I've about reached the end of my tolerance for our society's one-sided sympathy for the mis-fit, the ne'er do-well, the drug addict, the chronic criminal, the loser in general, the underdog.

I feel it's time for someone to stand up and say, "I'm for the upper-dog!"

I'm for the one who sets out to do something and does it; the one who recognizes the problems at hand and endeavors to deal with them; the one who isn't blaming someone else's failings; who doesn't consider it "square" to ask what more he can do instead of why he shouldn't be doing what he's doing.

Whether 'under-privileged' or 'Privileged' each of us should be judged by what he does with what he inherits - not merely excused as "A victim of his environment."

The quality of any society is directly related to the quality of the individuals who make it up. We will never create a good society, much less a great one, until individual excellence and achievement are not only respected but encouraged. Building a better society will only be done by those who take seriously their responsibility for making the most of their native ability, for getting the job done. That is why I am for the achiever, the succeder, the Upper-dog.

REPRINT FROM THE FORUM: Lincoln, Nebraska

Public Defenders in Massachusetts say they believe the day will come when the indigent defendant will be able to hire expensive investigators and call in expensive witnesses to testify for him.....at state expense!

Mass. judges appear to be anticipating such a move by the U.S. Supreme Court. Determined to be ready for it, many are granting requests for court paid expert witnesses for persons who can not afford them.

Most requests so far have been for Psychiatrists and Doctors. But increased demands are foreseen for experts in other fields.

# COTTONWOOD UNION SCHOOL

Two new fully qualified teachers have been added to the faculty of Cottonwood Union High School. Mr. Goldsworthy age 27 and Mr. Jaksha, age 28 are both qualified men, holding teaching certificates on the secondary Education level.

Mr. Goldsworthy, a graduate of Western Montana State College at Dillon, Mont. is a former X-Ray Technician. A trade he learned while serving a 3 year hitch in Uncle Sam's Army. After his discharge he felt a desire to become a teacher and proceeded to pursue this field of endeavor. Upon completion of his Education at Western he did his student teaching at Butte Public High School.

When I asked why he chose the prison school in preference to another, possibly higher paying position he replied, "One has to decide whether he is dedicated or whether he requires nothing more than status or rank in life to achieve at least a reasonable amount of satisfaction. I became a teacher for one reason and that was to help educate people. Before coming here I realized that there was an unlimited potential as far as acceleration of the Educational program was concerned. I think I have found what few other people find this early in life I chose as a vocation."

Mr. Jaksha is also a graduate of Western Montana State College. He began his education at the School of Mines in Butte with the hopes of becoming a Mining Engineer. But realizing that the field of Mining was rapidly closing and unhappy with what he was doing he quit school to enlist in The United States Army. During his tenure with the armed forces he was a clerk and draftsman. When he was discharged he decided to become a teacher and since he had two and one-half years of education in one

of the finest Mathematics Schools in the nation, he enrolled at Western with the hopes of becoming a Math-Science teacher. After graduation he did his student teaching at Butte Junior High School. He explained his reasons for coming to MSP in the following manner. "I like anyone else who chooses the teaching profession as his life's vocation had a desire to teach, but this is not really the major reason I am here today. I graduated from school in December and due to the fact that schools sign their contracts in the fall I was looking for a job. The prison needed a man, I applied and was accepted." I posed the question to Mr. Jaksha during an interview of whether or not he felt like Cottonwood Union School could adequately prepare a man for College. His reply was: "We have five certified teachers, men who are interested or they would not be here. I know personally that the information is here to be had, but the result of the Education that we may impart to an individual rest entirely on his own initiative. In other words it is impossible to shove anything down a persons throat especially knowledge. The one thing I try to instill in my pupils is the fact that just about anything they have may be taken away from them by someone. What they learn in school can never be taken away!

Both of the teachers realize the need for more Educational facilities in our penal systems. And above all they understand the problems that lie ahead. With men the caliber of these two coming to us from the outside world, (The world that doesn't care) eventually Cottonwood Union School will become the Institution it should.

For once men lets face facts; education and educated people are the only hope the socially-ill, criminal-branded have. The prison school is an embryonic light in a very dark and dismal world.

"The prison school can have a tremendous power for good. But, it must be admitted that merely teaching an illiterate to read and write will not in itself produce reformation. I believe prison schools should strive to change attitudes also, because only when they do will they accomplish the job they should."

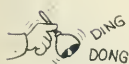
WM. WESLEY MENDENHALL, M.A.



The above picture, is one of the graduating groups of the Cottonwood Union School. 15 men received High School Certificates, 14 received G.E.D. Certificates and 11 received Basic School Achievement Certificates.

<u>HONOR ROLL</u>	<u>GRADE POINT AVERAGE</u>
Albert Lundgren	3.7
Louis Cron	3.5
Arnold Schmidt	3.5
James Diezger	3.3

All these men are to be congratulated, not only for achieving high grades, but for overcoming what was a defenite limitation. Hats off to a job well done!



M.S.P.  
SCHOOL



# TIGERTOWN

*Byron Gallagher*

by

## WHICH IS BEST?

There are the olympic lifts, power lifts, body building and progressive exercises. The answer is actually no one routine is best.

Only you can select a program which will benefit you the most. Therefore, the weight-lifter can choose by simple trial and error method. With this object in mind the lifter can trim off fat and perhaps correct an injury with progressive exercise, that is light weight, high reps. The Mr. America type must body build to some extent. Larry Scott, Mr. America incorporates all phases of lifting in his program, lifters seeking record weight use the olympic or power press method.

At times, a change of pace is necessary to be at your peak. Not enough or too much exercise can make a person irritable or nervous. Change your routine for a week or participate in some other activity or take a good rest.

Well, back to the arena where there are no skinny arms!



 PASTOR SKIBSRUD INSTALLED AS CHAPLAIN

**BROTHERHOOD**

Sunday, 4:00 P.M., saw the Rev. A.O. Skibsrud formally installed as Protestant Chaplain at MSP. <sup>Box 7</sup> The Rev. I.M. Nelson, Deer Lodge, member of the Governor's <sup>Deer Lodge, Montana</sup> Advisory Committee on Chaplaincy, was in charge of the service and welcomed a fine gathering of inmates, townspeople, members of MSP administration, and out of town visitors.

Members of St. John's Lutheran choir of Deer Lodge led in the processional and congregational singing as well as providing two choral anthems, "God So Loved The World," and 'Lord of Heaven.'

The Rev. Richard Vick, pastor of Deer Lodge Methodist Church, led the call to Worship and read from II Tim. 4:-9. The Rev Arthur Schudde, pastor of St. John's Lutheran and chairman of Deer Lodge Ministerial Association, brought greetings.

Mr. Elmer Erickson, MSP business manager, read a greeting from Warden Ellsworth and welcomed chaplain Skibsrud on behalf of the administration.

The sermon meditation was given by the Rev. J. David Larsen, Great Falls, chairman of the Governor's advisory Committee on Chaplaincy. Mr. Larsen pointed up the importance of an individual commitment to God. He also shared experiences from his own ministry illustrating God's power to change the most rebellious and indifferent into those who became positive and contributing members of society.

The Rev. Dr. Reider Daehlin, president of the Rocky Mountain District of the American Lutheran Church, pledged Chaplain Skibsrud to faithfulness as a Christian pastor and in his responsibility to minister to the spiritual needs of the Christian congregation in this place.

In conclusion Chaplain Skibsrud thanked all who had participated in the service and who had therefore contributed in making it a meaningful occasion and source of encouragement to himself.

Preliminary to the concluding Benediction, Chaplain - Skibsrud expressed his special thanks to the inmates in attendance, pledging himself to the business of giving his best in ministering to their spiritual and total-needs.

# Mount Powell Toastmasters Gavel Club 141



*Jim Wells*

This news-letter will be the last one until September as Mount Powell Toastmasters' Gavel Club # 141 will be adjourning for the summer on May 21st.

The regular quarterly elections were held on April-2nd, with the following results:

President.....	William Love
Educational V.P.....	James Watt
Administrative V.P.....	James Wells
Secretary - Treasurer.....	Ron Randall

The membership has increased from twelve members to twenty-three, and there are three men on the guest list.

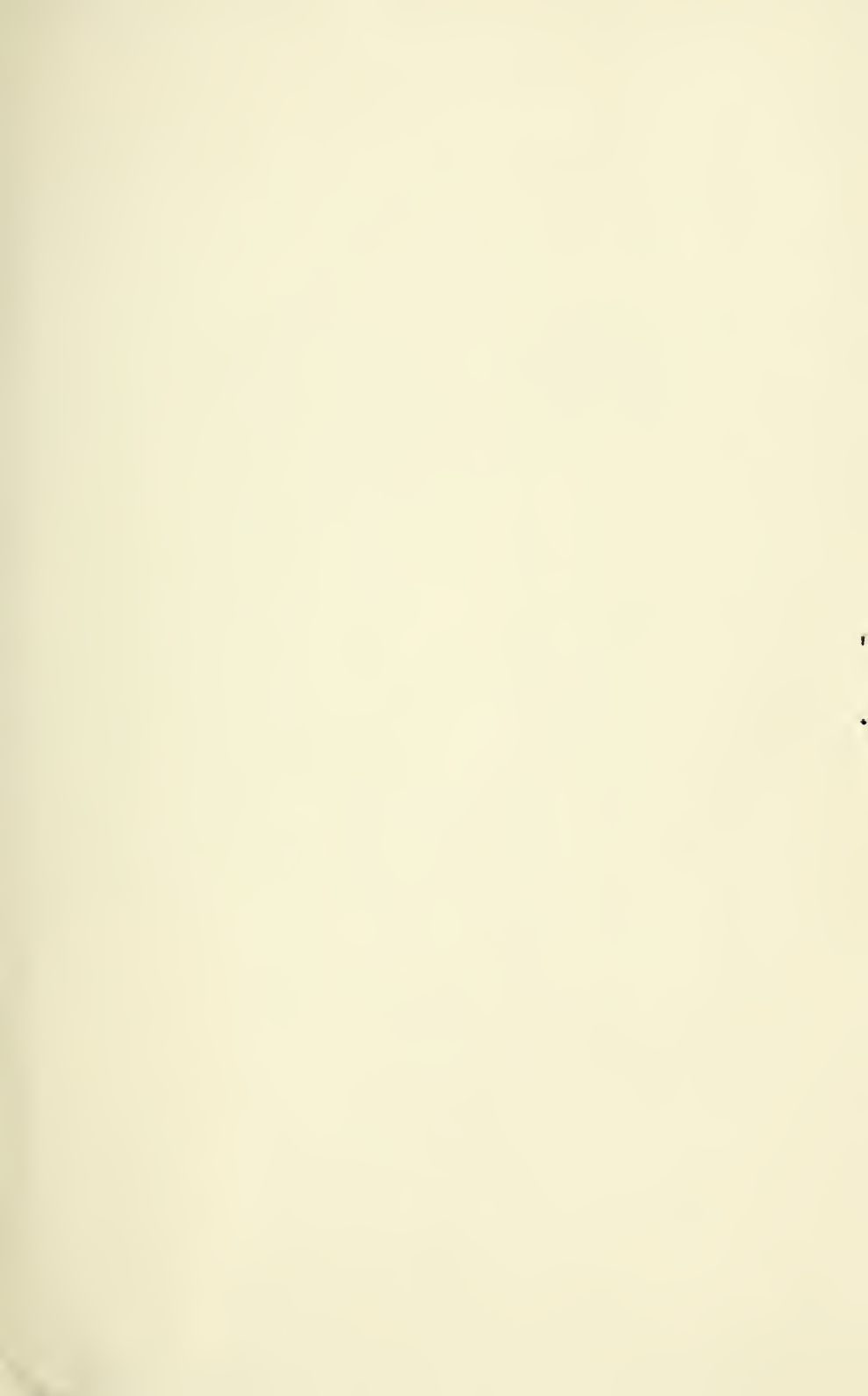
On April 30th, Mr. Randall notified the club of his resignation, and therefore an election was held to fill his un-expired term. Mr. Harold Schutt, a fairly new member, was elected.

The same night, the quarterly speak-off was held, the five men who competed were, Mr. Bill Love, Mr. Dan Hessel, Mr. Jim Hunsaker, Mr. Buster Morran, and Mr. Dennis Miller. All five men gave speeches dealing with Political Science. The winners were:

1. Mr. Bill Love
2. Mr. Dan Hessel
3. Mr. Jim Hunsaker

Three guests from downtown Deer lodge acted as the Evaluators, Mr. Bill Ryan, Mr. Jay Anderson, and Mr. C. Fudge, After the evaluations were given, Mr. Watt presented Participation Certificates to Mr. Ryan and to Mr. Anderson. Mr. Fudge received an Honorary Membership Certificate, because he had been a member of the Toastmaster club in Libby, prior to moving to Powell County.

We of Mount Powell Toastmasters, wish to express our sincere thanks to everyone who has helped our club!



If not accepted within a week  
in a hurry to return

Box 7, Deer Lodge, Montana

59722

Breathlessly Awaited BY:

Mrs. Ruth Longworth

Montana State Library Commission

930 E Lyndale Avenue

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